NUMB. DL.

The SPECTATOR.

Nec luſiſſe pudet, ſed non incidere ludum. Hor.

Monday, December 1. 1712.

SINCE the late Diſſolution of the Club whereof I have often declared my ſelf a Member, there are very many Perſons who by Letters, Petitions, and Recommendations, put up for the next Election. At the ſame Time I muſt complain, that ſeveral indirect and underhand Practices have been made uſe of upon this Occaſion. A certain Country Gentleman begun to *tapp* upon the firſt Information he received of Sir ROGER's Death, when he ſent me up Word, that if I would get him choſen in the Place of the Deceaſed, he would preſent me with a Barrel of the beſt *October* I had ever drank in my Life. The Ladies are in great Pain to know whom I intend to elect in the Room of WILL. HONEYCOMBE. Some of them indeed are of Opinion that Mr. HONEYCOMBE did not take ſufficient Care of their Intereſts in the Club, and are therefore deſirous of having in it hereafter a Repreſentative of their own Sex. A Citizen, who ſubſcribes himſelf *T. Z.* tells me that he has one and twenty Shares in the *African* Company, and offers to bribe me with the odd one in caſe he may ſucceed Sir ANDREW FREEPORT, which he thinks would raiſe the Credit of that Fund. I have ſeveral Letters, dated from *Jenny Man's*, from Gentlemen who are Candidates for Capt. SENTRY's Place, and as many from a Coffee-houſe in *Paul's* Church-yard of ſuch who would fill up the Vacancy occaſioned by the Death of my worthy Friend the Clergyman, whom I can never mention but with a particular Reſpect.

Having maturely weighed theſe ſeveral Particulars, with the many Remonſtrances that have been made to me on this Subject, and conſidering how invidious an Office I ſhall take upon me if I make the whole Election depend upon my ſingle Voice, and being unwilling to expoſe my ſelf to thoſe Clamours, which, on ſuch an Occaſion, will not fail to be raiſed againſt me for Partiality, Injuſtice, Corruption, and other Qualities which my Nature abhors, I have formed to my ſelf the Project of a Club as follows.

I have Thoughts of iſſuing out Writs to all and every of the Clubs that are eſtabliſhed in the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, requiring them to chooſe out of their reſpective Bodies a Perſon of the greateſt Merit, and to return his Name to me before *Lady-day*, at which Time I intend to ſit upon Buſineſs.

By this Means I may have Reaſon to hope, that the Club over which I ſhall preſide will be the very Flower and Quinteſcence of all other Clubs.

(Price Two-pence.)

Clubs. I have communicated this my Project to none but a particular Friend of mine, whom I have celebrated twice or thrice for his Happineſs in that kind of Wit which is commonly known by the Name of a Punn. The only Objection he makes to it is, that I ſhall raiſe up Enemies to my ſelf if I act with ſo regal an Air; and that my Detractors, inſtead of giving me the uſual Title of SPECTATOR, will be apt to call me the *King of Clubs*.

But to proceed on my intended Project: It is very well known that I at firſt ſet forth in this Work with the Character of a ſilent Man; and I think I have ſo well preſerved my Taciturnity, that I do not remember to have violated it with three Sentences in the Space of almoſt two Years. As a Monoſyllable is my Delight, I have made very few Excurſions in the Converſations which I have related beyond a Yes or a No. By this Means my Readers have loſt many good things which I have had in my Heart, though I did not care for uttering them.

Now in order to diverſify my Character, and to ſhew the World how well I can talk if I have a Mind, I have Thoughts of being very loquacious in the Club which I have now under Conſideration. But that I may proceed the more regularly in this Affair, I deſign upon the firſt Meeting of the ſaid Club to have *my Mouth opened* in Form, intending to regulate my ſelf in this Particular by a certain Ritual which I have by me, that contains all the Ceremonies which are practiſed at the opening the Mouth of a Cardinal. I have likewiſe examined the Forms which were uſed of old by *Pythagoras*, when any of his Scholars, after an Apprenticeſhip of Silence, was made free of his Speech. In the mean Time, as I have of late found my Name in foreign Gazettes upon leſs Occaſions, I queſtion not but in their next Articles from *Great Britain*, they will inform the World that *the* SPECTATOR's *Mouth is to be opened on the twenty fifth of* March *next*. I may perhaps publiſh a very uſeful Paper at that Time of the Proceedings in that Solemnity, and of the Perſons who ſhall aſſiſt at it. But of this more hereafter.

The Third Day.

For the Benefit of the Author.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this preſent Monday, being the 1ſt of December, will be preſented a new Tragedy call'd The heroick Daughter. By Her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

Never Perform'd but Thrice.

AT the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market, on Wedneſday next, being the 3d of December, will be preſented a new Opera call'd, The Faithful Shepherd, Compoſed by Mr. Hendel. The Parts to be performed by Signior Cavaliero Valeriano Pellegrini, Signior Valentino Urbani, Signora Pilotti Schiavonetti, Signora Margaretta de L'Epine, Mrs. Barbier, and Mr. Leveridge. Boxes 8 s. Pit 5 s. Gallery 2 s. 6 d. Boxes upon the Stage, Half a Guinea. To begin exactly at Six a Clock. No Perſon to ſtand upon the Stage.

AT Punch's Theatre in the Little-Piazza, Covent-Garden, this preſent Monday the 1ſt of December, and to Morrow being Tueſday the 2d, will be performed an Opera called, The Falſe Triumph; or, The Deſtruction of Troy. All the Greeks are exactly dreſt after the ancient manner of that Country, and the Trojans the ſame. At Paris's Triumph the Stage is beautified with Trophies, the Side-Scenes repreſenting Elephants with Caſtles, in which are Syrians holding forth ſplendid Banners, and Indians on Horſeback, bearing of Trophies. The Part of Jupiter to be perform'd by Signior Punchanello, who, in a Chariot drawn by an Eagle, deſcends and ſings to Paris: With a Proſpect of the City of Troy in Flames! Beginning at Six a Clock. No Perſons to be admitted with Masks or Riding-Hoods, Nor no Money to be returned after the Curtain is drawn up. Boxes 3 s. Pit 1 s.

This Day is publiſh'd,

The *Poſthumous Works* of the Learned Sir Thomas Browne Kt. late of Norwich, (Author of Religio Medici, &c.) printed from his Original Manuſcripts, containing, 1. Repertorium, or, The Antiquities of the Cathedral Church of Norwich: With exact Lifts of the Biſhops, Priors, Deans, Arch-Deacons, Chancellors, and Prebendaries, of the ſaid Church, to this preſent Year 1712. and illuſtrated with Proſpects, Pourtraitures, Draughts, of Tombs, Monuments, Arms, &c. curiouſly Engraven on 22 Copper Plates by the beſt Hands. 2. An Account of ſome Urns, &c. found at Brampton in Norfolk. Ann. 1667. 3. Letters between Sir William Dugdale and Sir Thomas Browne. 4. Miſcellanies, viz. An Account of Iceland, A Letter upon the Death of a Friend who died of a Conſumption, Againſt Cenſure, Upon Reading Hudibras. To which is prefix'd, Sir Tho. Browne's Life. There is alſo added, Antiquitates Canellæ D. Johannis Evangeliſtæ, hodie Scholæ Regiæ Norwicenſis. Authore Johanne Burton, A.M. ejuſdem Ludimagiſtro. Printed for E. Curl at the Dial and Bible againſt St. Dunſtan's Church in Fleet-ſtreet. Price 6 s.

Juſt Publiſh'd,

Eccleſiæ Theoria Nova Dodwelliana expoſita in Epiſtola ad Authorem clariſſ. ſuper Patrenoſi ſua ad exteros tam Reformatos quam etiam Pontificios de nupero Schiſmate Anglicano, Sold by Tho. Osborne in Grays-Inn, next the Walks.

LONDON: Printed for *S. Buckley* and *J. Tonſon*, and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*.